

Application: 10/035,516

Attorney Docket No. 112.P14215

REMARKS

The current patent application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action, dated March 24, 2006, (hereinafter "the office action"). In the office action, the abstract is objected to because of an informality noted by the Examiner. The specification is also objected to because of informalities noted by the Examiner. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with the claims. Claims 1, 5, 10, and 14 are objected to because of informalities noted by the Examiner. Reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application and early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 are currently pending. Claims 1-18 have been amended. Claims 19-23 have been added. Assignee has amended claims to more clearly delineate intended subject matter. The amendments to the claims are made without prejudice or disclaimer, and Assignee believes that none of these claim amendments constitute narrowing amendments. In fact, some of these claim amendments are intended to be broadening amendments. Accordingly, Assignee does not intend to surrender claimed subject matter by submission of the above amendments and no prosecution history estoppel should apply.

No new matter has been added. Support for new claims 19-23 may be found throughout the specification, for example at paragraphs [0010] and [0011].

It is noted that the Assignee's failure to comment directly upon any of the positions asserted by the Examiner in the office action does not indicate agreement or acquiescence with those asserted positions.

Objections to the Specification and Abstract

The specification and abstract have been amended to correct informalities noted in the office action. Assignee respectfully submits that the specification and abstract have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns. Assignee respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to the specification and abstract.

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Objections to the Claims

Claims 1, 5, 10, and 14 are objected to because of informalities noted by the Examiner. Assignee respectfully submits that the above-mentioned claims have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns. Assignee respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to claims 1, 5, 10, and 14.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with the claims. Assignee respectfully submits that claims 1-18 have been amended to more clearly delineate intended subject matter. Assignee respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claims 1-18.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that all of the claims pending in the present patent application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, he or she is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 439-6500. Reconsideration of the present patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested. Please charge any underpayments or credit any overpayments to deposit account no. 50-3703.

Respectfully submitted,

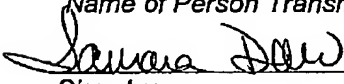
Date: June 26, 2006/Calvin E. Wells Reg. No. 43,256/Calvin E. Wells
Reg. No. 43,256

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